



# What do CDC data tell us about the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on **Routine Adolescent Vaccination**?

After the COVID-19 pandemic started, we saw a concerning drop in routine adolescent vaccinations. Provider orders for adolescent vaccines through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program also decreased by approximately 25% for HPV, Men-ACWY, and Tdap year 2020 (October 2019-September 2020) as compared to the same time the previous year.

## SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT

Adolescent vaccine orders through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program and administration have steadily rebounded. Tdap and MenACWY VFC orders now exceed pre-pandemic levels.



Vaccination coverage has remained high and stable overall among children **13-17 years of age**, with coverage of more than **9 in 10** teenagers for recommended Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines nationally. Coverage for HPV also increased slightly with nearly 1 in 8 teens receiving a first dose of this vaccine.

## IMPROVEMENT NEEDED

Adolescent vaccination coverage for MenACWY and Tdap **fell 4-5%** among teens that became eligible for these vaccines during the pandemic. HPV vaccine orders through the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program have remained around **10% lower** than pre-pandemic levels.

**4 - 5%**  
point drop

## IMMEDIATE ACTION NEEDED

**We must act now to catch up teens who delayed or missed getting routine vaccinations during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Getting routine immunizations back on track is a goal that we can achieve by working together to reduce barriers, increase access, and strengthen vaccine confidence.

